

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

Art Commission MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 25, 2011

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Arts Commission Members Present:

☒ Shelley Brittingham
☒ Donna DiFiore
☐ Andrea Reay
☒ Robbie Howell

☐ Shelli Park
☒ Michael O'Neill
☒ Chloe Bjordahl
☒ Debbie Thoma

☒ Virginia Wright

Staff Present:

Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor
Debbie Zemke, Recreation Manager

Guests:

Tamar Benzikry-Stern, 4 Culture Public Art

Minutes

Meeting called to order. Minutes are approved as corrected.

Public Art 101—Tamar Benzikry-Stern, 4 Culture—

4 Culture staff member Tamar Benzikry-Stern was invited to give a presentation on public art to help educate the commission before they begin the downtown mural project. The presentation included the why, what and how of public art. Tamar shared that public art builds unique communities by adding layers of interest and meaning to public infrastructure, thereby creating community pride. Public art can also tell a story or history of the community and place with collaborations between local residents and artists. Public art can create welcoming, memorable spaces, builds economic development, and assist tourism. Imagination and storytelling are strong public tools!

AREAS OF FOCUS REPORT

Arts Education –committee will meet on November 1st with Highline Cultural Arts Coordinator Stefan Nelson to discuss how the arts commission can support arts in the schools.

Public Art—The committee is meeting on November 17th to start planning the dollar store mural process, as well as discuss Maureen Hoffman's bike rack proposal. A few commissioners attended the unveiling of the eagle sculpture at Eagle Landing Park. The sculpture was created and donated by artist Galen Willis and a cover structure was built by a local eagle scout. Gina is also working on a possible project with New Start Alternative School and Puget Sound Skills Center that would provide one or more musical sculptures for the New Start campus.

Arts and Economic Development— Debbie presented the report from the 153rd street committee and thanked Donna for serving on committee. The committee was tasked with visionary exploratory planning for 153rd street. At this time Donna has stepped down from her role as chair of Economic Development committee and the hope is to get the new economic development director connected to arts commission...until then the committee is on hiatus.

HUB—Virginia shared that most of the large Burien non-profit arts and culture organizations are on board for this project. Twitter, facebook and the website is live. Also, the newsletter sign up page is live. Virginia and Gina will be at the 20/20 event to sign people up for the e-news and start a buzz about the new sites.

SAM Workshop-- Shelley, Virginia, and Gina attended the Seattle Art Museum workshop “The Role of the Arts in 21st Century Student Learning”. The keynote speaker provided many interesting discussion points about the state of the arts in the nations schools, as well as a list of “must read” reports.

Washington Arts Alliance Forum—Robbie reported on forum that focused on connecting organizations and communities.

STAFF REPORT

WRPA Glow Presentation—Gina and Arts-a-Glow artist Denise Henrikson presented a break-out workshop for the Washington Recreation and Parks midyear conference in Seattle on October 19th. The focus on the presentation was using participatory arts events to build community. 20 people attended the presentation that included a lecture and hands-on workshop.

Arts and Culture Grant-- The organizations have received notification about their grants and the contracts will be developed and mailed in December.

The meeting was adjourned.